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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
152 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
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MICHAEL P. CANTARA
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2005
9:30 AM
MAINE EMS CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES (FINAL)

Board Members: Steve Leach, (chair), Wayne Werts (chair-elect), John Alexander, Bob Ashby, Alan Azzara, Joe Conley, Oden Cassidy, Peter DiPientrantonio, Richard Doughty, Bill Dunwoody, Kevin Kendall, Penny Kneeland, Paul Knowlton, Jim McKenney, Carol Pillsbury, Steve Diaz (ex-officio)

Regional Coordinators: Steve Corbin Joanne LeBrun, Rick Petrie

Maine EMS Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dawn Kinney, Drexell White, Ben Woodard

Office of the Attorney General: Laura Yustak Smith, AAG

Guests: Paul Marcolini (Tri County EMS), Chris Moretto (Med-Star Ambulance), Rob Tarbox (PACE),

- 1) Introductions – Jay introduced Ben Woodard who has joined the MEMS staff as the Data & Preparedness Coordinator
- 2) Approval of September 7, 2005, meeting minutes

MOTION: To approved the minutes of the September 7, 2005, meeting as distributed. (Kneeland; seconded by DiPietrantonio) Unanimous.

3) Old Business

a) EMS Assessment Report.

Jay provided a summary report prepared by the EMS staff on the activities of the work groups. Three work groups (Human Resources/PIER, Transportation & Facilities, and Medical Control & Trauma Systems) have completed their Phase 1 work, which is to review the recommendations; accept, reject, or modify them – then prioritize each recommendation into high (significant impact to the MEMS system), medium (important to do after the 'high' priorities have been accomplished, and low (of minimal impact). The Regulation and Policy group continues its work, and once completed a summary of all the recommendations will be prepared and presented to the Board.

Jay also reported on a meeting that was held with the Joint Standing on Criminal Justice & Public Safety on September 28. Also at the meeting was Commissioner Cantara, Steve Leach, and Wayne Werts. The purpose of the meeting was to present an status report to the Committee on the EMSSTAR report. In addition to the above referenced material, Committee members also received printed copies of the minutes from all work group meetings.

b) Air Medical Activation

Dr. Diaz reported that the MDPB did review the data provided by LifeFlight of Maine on the over triage rates for trauma calls by providers at the scene. Those data showed an over triage rate well below average of several other established helicopter services. Following this presentation, the MDPB unanimously voted to clarify that activating air medical services is considered part of the trauma triage protocol and may be activated by EMS personnel without contacting medical control.

c) Warren Ambulance Appeal

Laura Yustak Smith reported that MEMS has received a notice that Warren Ambulance is appealing the Board's decision regarding Warren providing ambulance response to the Maine State Prison. This appeal is to the Maine Superior Court because the Board's decision is considered the final decision of the Department. Ms. Yustak Smith will be handling the necessary filings and response to the Town's appeal.

4) New Business

a) Operations Team Action Items – none at this time.

b) Education Committee Action Items

There were no action items from the Education Committee; however, Jay reported to the Board that Paul Marcolini who has chaired the Committee for the past 9 years has taken a new position within CMMC and will be leaving TCEMS and stepping down as Education Committee Chair. Jay and Steve Leach thanked Paul for his leadership and participation with the Education Committee – and in particular for chairing the joint Education/Exam Committees that worked on the Initial Practical Exam process during the summer.

c) Investigations Committee Action Items – none at this time

d) Legislative Liaison Committee

Discussion took place regarding ways to get Board members more involved in the Legislative process. While the Board is interested in being able to better respond to legislative bills that arise, the logistics for doing that are complex. Among the issues is the requirement that such meetings must be done in public following due notice – and that frequently issues arise that the

Legislature which require almost and immediate response. Those interested will meet with Laura Yustak Smith following the Board meeting to discuss this further.

e) Regional Council Oversight Committee

Steve Leach opened the discussion about having an ad-hoc Committee that would meet with the Regional Coordinators on a periodic basis and monitor Councils' contract performance. This suggestion was made by a member of the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee during a private meeting in the Committee offices. Steve pointed out that each Council is required to submit an annual activity summary and that updates are part of the monthly Operations Team meetings.

It was suggested that Wayne Werts attend the Operations Team meetings, but in light of the information already available (e.g. annual council report, Ops Team minutes, etc.) other options may emerge which do not put an additional burden upon Board members or the regional offices.

f) Other - none at this time

5) Staff Reports

i) MEMS

- (1) Jay reported that the electronic run reporting project is continuing to move forward. The contract with ImageTrend has been approved, and the vendor is in the process of uploading the software on the MEMS servers. Once the internal testing phase has been completed, the web site will be opened to public access with a demo version of the program. Train-the-trainer programs will then be conducted as other details are finalized on the data set and the logic checks. Ben Woodard will be leading this project and meeting with the NH data coordinator and ImageTrend on October 14.
- (2) RAED Grant – In the next 30-60 days, MEMS will be ordering ~ 200 AEDs as the last phase of the 4 year RAED grant. It is anticipated that again this year, AEDs will be available at a the state rate to those who are interested in purchasing units.
- (3) MEMS continues to work with Maine Cardiovascular Health (MCH) on the development of a HeartSafe Communities project. In the next several weeks, a letter will be mailed to all EMS service chiefs and regional offices with details of how the program will work. MCH is also working with local Rotary Club leaders on the possibility of their support for this project.
- (4) NASEMSD – Jay will be attending the annual meeting of the National Association of State EMS Directors will be held October 10-14. This year's meeting will also include a session for medical directors, which Dr. Diaz will attend – and state data managers, which Ben Woodard will attend.

ii) MDPB

Dr. Diaz reported that in addition to the previously mentioned discussion on air ambulance activation, the MDPB also reviewed a concern that has been brought regarding the MDPB getting involved in hospital destination in communities that have more than one hospital, and hospital diversion. It was agreed that while this is somewhat beyond the purview of the MDPB, these are matters of importance to the EMS system. As such, it was agreed that coordinating a meeting with Maine AEP and Maine Hospital Assn may be helpful.

Dr. Diaz has also been having discussions with MaineHealth about opportunities for them to assist in the development of the PIFT program. A meeting with EMS and MaineHealth has been scheduled to discuss the project and the needs. The intent is that material developed by MaineHealth (or other such partners in the future) would be the property of Maine EMS.

Jim McKenney announced that Beth Collamore, MD, has resigned as the Aroostook County Regional Medical Director. Dr.. Collamore has agreed to continue in an interim capacity as a new regional medical director can be identified.

6) Other

Jay and Steve Leach reminded members that there will be an EMS “Town Meeting” at the Samoset on Friday, November 11. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to interact with Board, staff, and MDPB members on Saturday, November 12.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM; next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 2, 2005 @ 9:30 AM.